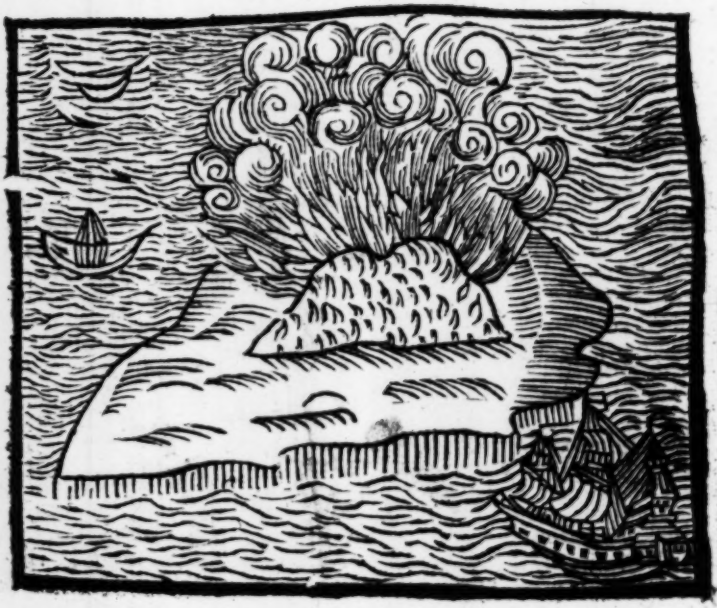
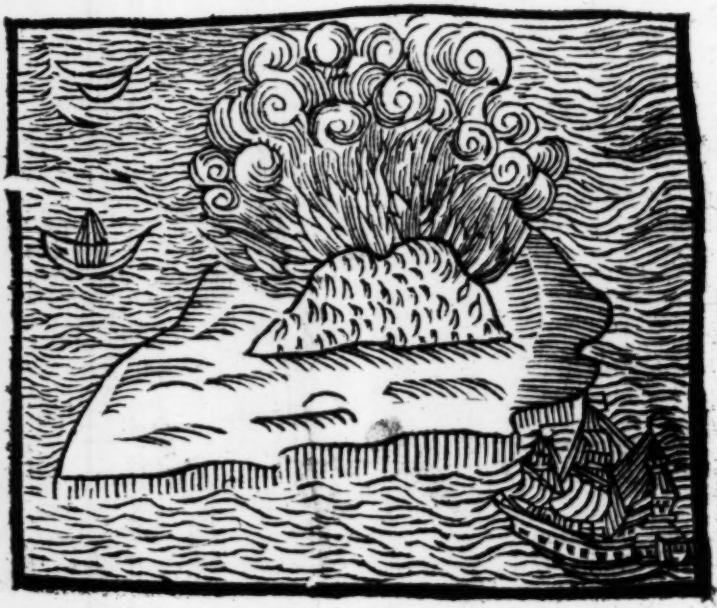


The burning Iſland.



The burning Iſland.

A TRVE AND STRANGE RELATION OF *FIRE*,

Which by an Eruption brake forth out of the bowels of the earth in the depth of the Sea, and made an Iſland of foure miles and a halfe in length, one of the Iſlands of the *Tercera's*, to the amazement of the beholders.

And which is teſtified by divers Matriners lately come into *England*.

Which happened in the moneth of Iuly laſt paſt, 1638.

LONDON,
Printed for *Nathaniel Butter*, and *Nicholas Bourne*,
1638.

A PRODIGIOVS Eruption of Fire, which exhaled in the middest of the Ocean sea, over against the Isle of Saint *Michael*, one of the *Terceira*, and the new Island which it hath made. It tooke beginning the third of July of this present yeare 1638.

BEtwixt the Terceira's Islands, so known to those who saile to the East and West Indies and to Brasile, there is a site of water in the midst of the sea, distant two leagues from the Island of Saint *Michael*, which the adjoining inhabitants call Ferrada, so abounding with fish, that it is doubtfull whether there bee any place more plentifull in all the seas. In this place nature hath wrought the most portentous case that the ages have seen, it was thus. On the third of the last July, within

within the bottome of the sea, which in the sayd place is one hundred and fifty fadomes deepe, like the sp[illegible] and great [illegible] of earth separated is full, which would take the sowing of halfe a bushell of wheate, with the vehemencie and force of an impetuous fire, against which all the waters of the ocean sea it selfe could make no resistance, casting up to the clouds the water and earth in severed parts, as it were burning torches, and very great stones, some whereof ascending while others descended, and so encountring each other, returned by vertue of the new impulse to fly up more than three pikes high; others dissolved in pieces, did fly as if they had sailed large distances, and the broken pieces beeing handled, dissolved into blacke ashes, and all that circuit of water changing its nature, like withered and dry wood, ministreth matter if not aliment to the fire, which without ceasing doth continue burning. A fatall wonder, which is so much the more, to see that with the multitude of stones which the fire hath cast up, there is composed and formed a new Island, which takes up a league and a half in length, and is threescore fadomes high, and it did continue its augmentation and burning until the tenth day of the sayd Iuly, as appeareth by an assured relation which was sent to his Majesty, whom God protect, and is in the registry of State belonging to Portugall. All the fish which were within more than eight leagues distance round about, died consumed,

and

and made worth nothing; and the sea cast forth upon the shores of the Iland of Saint *Michael* so great a quantity, that it would have filled many of those ships which saile to the East Indies: and lest the aire should bee infected, they made great pits, in which they buried them. All the sea boyled for many leagues, the smell of the brimstone was felt by the most remote of those Islands, the smoake and the ashes filled the aire, and hid the light of the Sunne, to the admiration of all the inhabitants of those Islands.

Before this fire there preceded an earthquake, which continued more than eight dayes, perceived in all those seas and Islands, and with a greater noise in that of Saint *Michael*; so that the inhabitants terrified, confounded and astonished, lest they should perish amidst the ruines of the buildings, fled into the fields, where they remained for some days, confessing, fasting, and making processions of bloud, and other acts of penance as those who feared to to die, either drowned with the Islands themselves, or consumed and burned with another equall fire.

Our Lord God was pleased that the wind should be from the land, for had it beene from sea, it had burned all the townes of the neighbouring Islands, and would have occasioned another cineration like that which hapned in those parts in the year 1630.

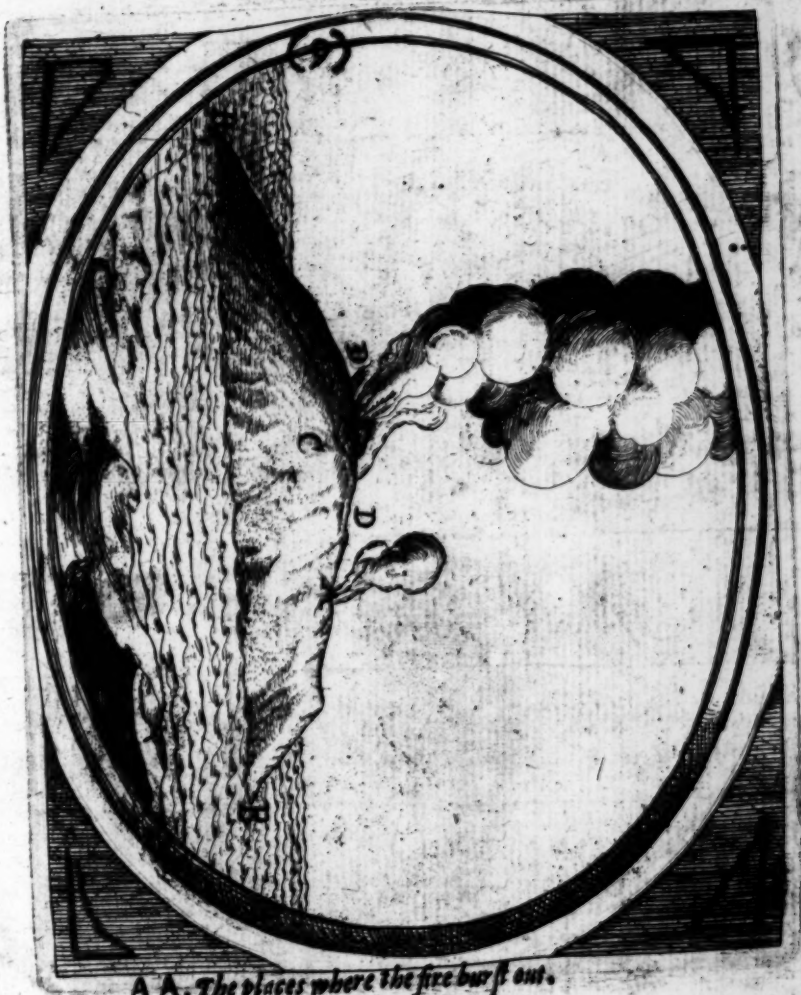
There went many persons to sound the depth of that place, and they have found that it hath of depth in the sea more than one hundred and fifty fadoms.

Let the Speculative ponder, and the philosopher search out the cause of so portentuous an effect, in as much as the Mathematician seekes rects for his judgement, and the Historian knowledges for his discourse.

Madrid the eighth of September, 1638.

With Licence in Madrid.

In the *Imprimiterie* of *Francisco Martinez*, in the year 1638.



A A. *The places where the fire burſt out.*
B B. *The length of the Iſland.*
C. *The Iſland.*
D D. *The height of the Iſland.*